A N

E S S A Y

ON THE

C H A R A C T E R

OF THE LATE

ALEXANDER RUSSEL, M.D. F.R.S.

Read before the SOCIETY of PHYSICIANS,
the 2d of October, 1769.

L O N D O N:

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ADVERTISEMENT.

A Few years ago it was reported, that the College of Phyſicians in London had it under conſideration to admit perſons deſirous of practiſing phyſic as Licentiates, upon an examination in Engliſh.

This was done, as it was ſuppoſed, to introduce into this rank men of little or no education, in order to depreciate the characters of many whowere in ſome eſteem with the public.

An attempt of this nature could not but alarm thoſe who were immediately to be affected by it, and who felt the deſigned indignity.

Several of theſe met together, compared the accounts they had received, and found there was too much truth in the reports, to ſuffer them any longer to remain inattentive to deſigns ſo prejudicial.

It was reſolved to call the Licentiates in general together, to acquaint them with their ſituation, and to act in concert for their general ſafety.

But

But this was not all; thoſe who embarked in this affair, had at heart not only the honour of their profeſſion, but its public utility; not only to emancipate themſelves from an authority, which appeared to them in the light of uſurpation, but to eſtabliſh the faculty upon a ſolid and liberal foundation.

How far their endeavours may ſucceed, is uncertain. But of one thing they are ſure; they promote harmony amongſt themſelves, excite to an honourable emulation; and whatever may be their fate, will give proofs by the rectitude of their conduct, and an exertion of their abilities, that they are not unworthy of the higheſt honours in their profeſſion.

Philanthropy is inſeparable from good minds. This led them very early to reſolve, that honourable mention ſhould be made of their colleagues after their deceaſe. It has fallen to my lot, by appointment of the ſociety, to perform this office. If my abilities had been equal to my friendſhip for the deceaſed, or to his deſert, the reader would have received much ſatisfaction in peruſing the following pages.

The AUTHOR.

Gentlemen,

WHEN it was firſt propoſed in this Aſſembly, to preſerve the memory of ſuch of our aſſociates, as had deſerved well of the public, and thereby done honour to the community of which we are members, I little expected it would have fallen to my lot, ſo ſoon to have performed this mournful office for one, who in reſpect of vigour of conſtitution, temperance, and juſt management of his health, was inferior to none, ſuperior to moſt amongſt us.

Accuſtomed as we are to ſee the ravages of that hand, which removes the generations of men, ſtrong and weak, rich and poor, the ignorant and the wiſe, like the herbage that falls promiſcuouſly before the ſcythe, not one could refrain the unaffected ſigh, ſcarcely the tear, when it was known that our *Ruſſell* was no more! The tender remembrance of friendſhip yet lives in every breaſt; we mourn without form; we ſee and feel the void his fall has left, and which only time can mitigate, and a reſignation to the

diſpenſations of that Power which orders all things with unerring Wiſdom, and Goodneſs beyond our comprehenſion.

Unpractiſed in the language of Eulogy, and unequal to the charge you have committed to me, allow me to beſpeak your utmoſt candour and condeſcenſion, and think him not unworthy of your indulgence, who, in obedience to your commands, attempts to place before you, though in an imperfect manner, the idea of the companion you deplore.

We wiſh to know the moſt minute particulars in the lives of thoſe, when they are removed, who have become dear to us, either from a ſimilitude of manners, ſimilar ſtudies, a long and mutual intercourſe of friendſhip, or any other of thoſe ſtrong connections that tend to cement individuals together in ſociety. In infancy, almoſt in the period of youth and adoleſcence, many traits are often obſervable, that ſtrongly mark the future character of the man. The relation of incidents, of no conſequence in themſelves, viewed in this light, affords us ſatisfaction, when we recollect them as the early preſages of future worth: my acquaintance with our colleague having commenced at a later period, prevents any narrative of this kind. I have learned, however, that modeſty, diligence, and propriety of conduct, accompanied him from early infancy; beloved by

his

his intimates, eſteemed by his friends, ſeldom making an enemy, never loſing a friend, by his own miſconduct.

He was early devoted to medicine by his father ;* a perſon of great eminence as a lawyer in the city of Edinburgh, and ſingularly happy in having ſeven of his ſons that lived to be men ; not one of whom, by miſbehaving, ever gave him cauſe of a moment's diſquietude ; but, on the contrary, by the juſt reputation they acquired, made all good men rejoice that he had ſuch a family, and ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed by ſo many good qualities.

Our colleague, after having gone through his grammatical ſtudies with reputation in the high ſchool at Edinburgh, and ſpent two years after this in the Univerſity, was placed with his uncle, who was then one of the moſt eminent practitioners in the city, in order to acquire the knowledge of the firſt rudiments of medicine. In the years 1732, 3 and 4, he

* The conciſeneſs of the author reſpecting the character of the Doctor's father, in all probability aroſe from an apprehenſion of endangering his own credit, or at leaſt of ſubjecting himſelf to the imputation of credulity, had he further enlarged upon it.

For how few would believe, that a moſt fond indulgent father could, in his own houſe, manage a very numerous family of children, all boys, and bring up ſeven of them to man's eſtate, without ever giving a blow, or even uſing a harſh expreſſion ; and yet preſerved a more perfect obedience in them, than can be produced by any bodily pain ? Such education is liberal in the trueſt ſenſe of the word.

This worthy man, though he lived to the age of 86, was to the laſt attended, whenever he pleaſed (which was almoſt all day long) with chearful company of both ſexes, and of all ages ; retained his faculties and amiable temper, was never angry, and preſerved his chearfulneſs and ſpirits to the laſt.

he continued his medical ſtudies under the profeſſors, who at that time ſo ably filled the ſeveral chairs of phyſic in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, and laid the foundation of that character which ranks it in the public eſteem ſuperior to moſt others in Europe.

Though there had long been profeſſorſhips for medicine in that place, and ſeveral attempts had been made to introduce a general courſe of medical inſtruction, it was not till about the year 1720, that this univerſity diſtinguiſhed itſelf. Several gentlemen, who had ſtudied under Boerhaave, with a view to revive the ſtudy of medicine in their native country where it had formerly flouriſhed, qualified themſelves for the purpoſe of giving courſes of public lectures on every branch of their profeſſion. The celebrated *Monro* taught anatomy, after having ſtudied it for ſeveral years under the ableſt maſters then in Europe *. The *theory* of phyſic was aſſigned to the amiable, the humane *Dr. Sinclair*; *Drs. Rutherford* and *Innes* choſe the *practice*; *chemiſtry* was allotted to *Dr. Plummer*, and the teaching the *materia medica*, together with *botany*, (of which laſt he was appointed King's profeſſor) devolved upon the learned and indefatigable *Alſton*. The city of Edinburgh favoured the generous deſign, added to the ſalaries allotted from the crown, and provided as ſuitable conveniencies as the place would at that time afford.

They

* Dr. Douglaſs of London, Albinus, the elder, of Leyden, and Winſlow at Paris.

They had no ſooner opened their reſpective profeſſorſhips, than many ſtudents of their own nation, ſome from England, from Ireland, and not long after from the Plantations likewiſe, flocked thither. This ſtimulated the profeſſors to exert their great talents with the utmoſt energy; profeſſor *Monro*'s claſs ſoon became numerous; and the anatomy of the bones, of the nerves, and his other pieces, will long remain as teſtimonies of his great abilities, when the grateful regard of the multitude of thoſe who ſtudied under him, and were witneſſes of his ſingular attention to inſtruct and encourage his pupils, as well as to act the part of a parent to every ſtranger, fails of expreſſion. With what grace and elegance, with what minuteneſs and preciſion, would the humane, the inimitable *Sinclair* explain the inſtitutes of the maſter, whoſe nervous ſimplicity he ſtudied to exemplify, though not with ſervile imitation? Where he differed in opinion from that great man, with what diffidence would he offer his own? Ever the ſtudent's friend, and their example, in a noble ſimplicity of manners, and a conduct becoming the gentleman and the phyſician.

Doctor *Rutherford* ſtill enjoys his country's praiſe, and the laſting eſteem of all his pupils. *Plummer* is no more! He knew chemiſtry well. Laborious, attentive, and exact. Had not a native diffidence veil'd his talents, as a prælector, he would have been among the foremoſt in the pupils eſteem: Such was the gentleneſs of his nature; ſuch his univerſal

knowledge, that in any diſputed point of ſcience, the great *Maclaurin* always appealed to him, as to a living library; and yet ſo great his modeſty, that he ſpoke to young audiences, upon a ſubject he was perfectly maſter of, not without heſitation.

Alſton, the laborious *Alſton*, will live for ages. What benefit his pupils had the means of reaping, will beſt be known when his Lectures, now in the preſs, are publiſhed †: What care to ſeparate truth from falſhood! how cautious in advancing ſpeculation! how laborious in experiment, and chaſte in forming his concluſions! The numerous M. S. copies, that were taken by his pupils of his lectures, are ſufficient proofs of their opinion of his abilities.

But while I am thus attempting to pay my tribute of gratitude to the memories of thoſe eminent profeſſors, who laid the foundation of that ſeminary of phyſic, whoſe reputation has ſince drawn ſtudents from every nation in Europe, let me not forget the learned, the able, the laborious *Innes*. Tho' I was not ſo happy as to be of the number of his pupils, yet I can well remember the deep regret expreſs'd by many of the ſtudents, my contemporaries, for his early and untimely fate. Often I have heard them tell, with what dignity with what clearneſs and preciſion, in what a nervous maſculine ſtile, he uſed to explain the Aphoriſms of his great maſter. His colleagues, too, moſt deeply lamented the loſs

† Theſe Lectures are ſince publiſhed.

loſs which they and the public ſuſtained by the death of ſo able a coadjutor ; they regretted the Man whom they loved, the Phyſician and Profeſſor whom they eſteemed.

Under ſuch maſters, and at a time when they were daily riſing into reputation, Dr. Ruſſel ſtudied, embracing every means of qualifying himſelf for the duties of his ſtation.

Several ſtudents at that time, the foremoſt in application and in knowledge, fired by the example of their maſters, who had nothing more at heart than the improvement of thoſe who committed themſelves to their tuition, formed a Society for their mutual inſtruction and advancement in their ſtudies. Every ſtudent of a certain ſtanding, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his diligence, capacity, and conduct, was initiated into this little aſſembly. Here the opinions of the Antients, of their Contemporaries, nay the Doctrines of their Maſters, were frequently diſcuſſed ; and two of the members were always charged with the taſk of providing inſtruction and entertainment for the next meeting of the Society. Queſtions, no doubt, were here diſputed and decided, which long experience would have declined. But it exerciſed their faculties, gave them both ſides of arguments, taught them to doubt, and habituated them to obſervation.

Our colleague was one of the firſt members of this aſſociation, inſtituted in the autumn of the year 1734, together with

with the eminent Doctor Cuming of Dorcheſter, the ſagacious Cleghorn, lecturer in anatomy at Dublin, with a few others, who, though now removed, did honour in their ſtations to this inſtitution, which not only ſubſiſts, but has yearly encreaſed in vigour, and is honoured with the immediate patronage of the Profeſſors. In a Theſis, not long ſince dedicated to this Society by a very ingenious member ‡, as well as from the teſtimony of another gentleman, who had been admitted into it, the ſingular advantages that reſult from this aſſociation, are deſcribed in a manner that delineates the character of

‡ Dr. Morgan of Philadelphia dedicates his Theſis, publiſhed when he took his degree in the year 1763.

" Societati Medicinæ Studioſorum in Academia Edinburgena dudum inſtitutæ :"

In which he beſtows, among others, the following panegyrick. " Quippe qui recolam " quanto cum judicio, ordine et decore res veſtræ gerantur ; quanta ſint in veſtris ratioci- " niis et ſententiis, tum libertas et candor, tum etiam nam expertus refero, æquus et hu- " manus favor, ita ut ſaluberrimo hoc veſtro inſtituto, quo non niſi utiliſſimæ quæſtiones " diſcutiuntur, omnia conſpirant ad ſcientiæ medicæ ſtudium cum fructu et emolumento pro- " movendum," &c.

In Dr. Garland's Inaugural Diſſertation, " De medicamentis adſtringentibus," publiſhed alſo in 1763, is the following account of it.

" Nec juvenum coetûs qui medicinæ ratione excolendæ cauſâ, ſeptimo quoque die, inter " ſe in noſocomio regio conveniunt, ac quorum ego in numero per triennii ſpatium fui, " deceſſurus, non mentionem non facere potui.—Celeberrimis academiæ ſcholis, hæc quaſi " alia ſuccedit.—Is certe locus eſt, ubi audita a doctoribus, e libris petita, undecunque ac- " cepta ad medicinam pertinens diſciplina, in medium prolata, ac ultro, citroque in con- " trarias partes diſputando agitata, altius in omnium animos influit : ubi juventutis ſtudia glo- " ria incenduntur, exercitatione acuuntur, animique ad multiplicis ac ſpinoſæ ſcientiæ quærendæ " laborem perferendum, propoſitis ex ſuorum numero exemplis pulcherrimis, perpelluntur, " poſtremo, ubi omnes inter ſe mutuæ amicitiæ firmiſſimum nectit vinculum. *Floruit tri-* " *ginta prope annos* his juvenilis circulus, et ut æternum floreat precor !"

Soon after its firſt inſtitution, the writer of this Memorial was likewiſe a member, and knows from experience the benefits reſulting from it.

of the ſtudents in that univerſity, and does honour to the firſt founders of the inſtitution.

Having finiſhed his ſtudies in the univerſity, though without applying for a degree at that time, he came to this city in the year 1735, and ſoon after went to Turkey, and ſettled about the year 1740 at Aleppo, in the practice of phyſic.

The Engliſh Factory at that place has frequently been conſtituted of men of property and extenſive knowledge; they were ſuch when Doctor Ruſſell fixed there, at the unanimous requeſt of the gentlemen of the Factory. We have no account of any of his predeceſſors being remarkably eminent in the practice of phyſic: To take care of the Factory ſeems to have been the extent of their views.

Doctor Ruſſell applied himſelf aſſiduouſly to gain a knowledge of the Language of the country, and to become acquainted with the ableſt of the numerous practitioners in the place, who were employed among the inhabitants. He ſucceeded in both: He ſoon diſcovered the incapacity of theſe; a few traditional receipts compoſed the whole furniture of moſt of them; he found a few, however, capable of information, and aſſiſted them to the utmoſt of his power.

He was ſoon applied to by the inhabitants of Aleppo, of all ranks and profeſſions; Franks, Greeks, Armenians, Maronites, Jews, &c. and even by the Turks themſelves: In this inſtance they forgot that he was an unbeliever, remitted of their uſual contempt for ſtrangers, and not only beheld him with reſpect, but courted his friendſhip, and placed unlimited confidence in his opinion. The Paſcha himſelf became acquainted with the merit of our deceaſed colleague, conſulted him, called him his Friend, found him upright, ſenſible, and ſincere; as a man, polite without flattery, decent, but not ſervile; as a chriſtian, true to his principles, diſintereſted and generous as a Briton; and in point of ſkill as a phyſician, ſuperior to every one. A natural, even, cool and conſiſtent temper, a freedom of behaviour as remote from confidence as conſtraint, improved by reading and converſation; a mind imbued with juſt reverence to God, and impreſſed with a ſenſe of the duty we owe; an underſtanding fraught with the principles of the profeſſion to which he had been early devoted (the practice of phyſic) happily blended with great benevolence, was a character ſeldom to be met with in the Aſiatick regions: This, however, was the character of our colleague; and I appeal to you, my aſſociates, for the juſtice of the portrait.

The Factory thought themſelves happy in ſuch a phyſician, ſuch a companion, ſuch a countryman. His cloſe and intimate

intimate connexion with the Paſcha, enabled him to render to the Factory the moſt important ſervices; and indeed all the European nations trading at that place, were repeatedly obliged to his interpoſition, on a multitude of occaſions.

Seldom would the Paſcha determine any intricate affair, reſpecting not only commerce, but even the interior Police of his government, without firſt conſulting his Phyſician and his Friend; and as ſeldom deviated from the opinion he propoſed: And ſuch was the Paſcha's reſpect for ſo rare a character, and ſuch his friendſhip and determined reſolution to do him honour, that he even choſe to oblige the People in the Doctor's Preſence, and ſeldom puniſhed any criminal but in the Doctor's Abſence; that the people might learn to think it was owing to the Doctor's Interpoſition, that examples of ſeverity were not more frequently inflicted. ‡

Many

‡ With regard to criminals, this behaviour of the Paſcha was very remarkable and polite; for when mitigating circumſtances occurred in favour of criminals, to induce the Paſcha to ſpare them, he often diſmiſſed them, with a caution to behave better in time to come; for they were ſo bad, that none of their own countrymen durſt ſpeak to them; but that they owed their lives to the Engliſh Doctor: Though he ſometimes before had retired, to make way for the neceſſary ſeverities of juſtice, and knew nothing of the matter till the poor unhappy wretches came to his houſe, to fling themſelves at his feet, and with true gratitude thank him for their lives: And indeed ſometimes the Paſcha went ſo far as to tell the criminals, that, in his opinion, they certainly deſerved Death, but that he durſt not order it, for the Engliſh Doctor inſiſted on Mercy. It is rare to find any ruler making ſo great a ſacrifice

Many princely preſents were the conſequence of this eſteem: The Paſcha did not even forget the Doctor's Father, *to whom*, ſaid he, *I am obliged for your aſſiſtance.* He ordered preſents to be ſent to the worthy old man: What joy muſt this excite in an aged parent's heart, to have ſuch authentic proofs of the merit of his ſon from ſo diſtant a clime, and where the merit muſt be great to gain ſuch a teſtimony! ---I leave the HISTORY OF ALEPPO to ſpeak its author's abilities.---It has been already tranſlated into other languages, and it will be juſtly eſteemed one of the moſt important productions in medicine, ſhould ever that fatal ſcourge, the Plague, be permitted to come amongſt us.

You, gentlemen, are not ignorant of its worth; and to ſay more on this ſubject, would be detracting as much from your underſtandings, as from your friendſhip.

Suffer

crifice of his popularity to a Stranger, or in ſo polite a manner to transfer it to any body.—Beſides this Paſcha, who ruled a long time, the others that came after him had the greateſt confidence in the Doctor, and intimacy with him; particularly one Paſcha of this place, an old man, who had ruled the Empire as Grand Vizir, and died at Aleppo, intruſted him with the whole ſecrets of his family, and depended on his advice.

The Doctor's fame was perhaps more general over the Turkiſh Empire, than any phyſician's is in Europe; well known at court, and in every province, he eſcaped more than once the diſagreeable circumſtance of being ſent for to the Grand Signor in time of the Plague His brother was, in moſt of the trading towns in Turkey, found out, by bearing the ſame name, and offered great civilities; and once at Conſtantinople, when a ſlight Plague happened there, was oppreſſed with invitations to viſit ſeveral great men, which with difficulty he avoided. W. R.

Suffer me, however, to recount one circumſtance, which may not perhaps be of ſuch general notoriety.

From his thorough knowledge of the Peſtilence, and the means ſucceſsfully made uſe of to prevent infection, in the countries moſt expoſed to this fatal diſeaſe, he formed a deſign of exciting the greateſt commercial nation in the world to provide ſome more effectual means than hitherto it had done, in order to prevent it from again becoming the dreadful theatre of peſtilential contagion.---With this view, in his return from Turkey, he viſited the moſt famous Lazarettos, to which he could have acceſs, inquired into their ſtructure, the government they were under, and took an account of all the precautions they uſed for preſervation.

At Naples, Leghorn, and other places, he had all the opportunities of obſervation he could wiſh for; and profited by them to ſuch a degree, as to be better acquainted with the conduct of the wiſeſt ſtates, in reſpect to the means of prevention, than perhaps any other perſon: Indeed his acquaintance with this ſubject, and his experience, induced him to make himſelf maſter of every thing appertaining to preſervation from one of the greateſt of all human calamities.

And ſo generally was his great knowledge of this diſtemper eſtabliſhed, that in the latter end of the year 1757, when our miniſtry was alarmed with a report of its being broke out at Liſbon, and earneſtly ſollicitous to take every precaution to prevent its being imported into this kingdom, they thought no perſon ſo fit to be conſulted on the means proper to be purſued, as our worthy colleague. Doctor Ruſſell received his orders to attend the Privy Council; he came, and gave ſuch pertinent and ſatisfactory anſwers to the queſtions propoſed, that he was deſired to communicate his information, and the method he propoſed to prevent the ſpreading of that calamity in writing. This he accordingly did; and ſhould it pleaſe the Almighty hereafter to threaten this nation with that dreadful ſcourge, the proſecution of the plans then ſuggeſted, may perhaps greatly contribute to avert from us the moſt terrible of all diſeaſes.

From the time he left England, to his return in February 1755, we had maintained a regular correſpondence. I could not forbear mentioning to him repeatedly, how acceptable a more accurate account of Aleppo would be to this nation, and to all Europe; that no perſon would probably ever ſtand a chance of ſucceeding in it ſo happily as himſelf; that his long reſidence there, his knowledge of the language, the manners, cuſtoms, diſeaſes of the place, the great credit

dit he had acquired amongſt all ranks, by an able, diligent, and diſintereſted exertion of his faculties amongſt them, his influence over the Paſcha, and the reſpect paid him by the Turks themſelves, would facilitate every enquiry: He viewed the propoſal in the ſame light, collected materials, made ſuitable enquiries, and has erected a laſting and honourable monument to his memory.

With no ſmall trouble he ſucceeded in procuring us the ſeeds of the *true ſcammony*. They were raiſed by my two botanical friends, the late Peter Collinſon, and the indefatigable James Gordon: Seeds were likewiſe ſent over to the ſouthern colonies of America, in hopes that in a ſimilar ſoil and latitude, in ſome future time, we might from thence have this valuable drug unadulterated.‡

To

‡ The late Conſul Sherrard, who reſided long at Aleppo, and was one of the moſt eminent botaniſts of his time, endeavoured long and fruitleſsly to obtain the ſeeds of this and ſome other curious plants. The Arabs, who are the people chiefly employed in theſe affairs, not ſo much through ignorance as knaviſhneſs, will bring every kind of ſeed but the right, and aſſert that it is the ſeed required. Dr. Ruſſel aſſured me, that he had near 20 different ſeeds brought to him for the ſeeds of the true Scammony, by different perſons employed to procure it him, with promiſes of a ſuitable reward. Amongſt theſe found, there were two parcels of ſeeds alike, which correſponding to the general character, he judged were the right; and theſe he ſent over to England. Many plants were raiſed from them, and ſome are yet in the gardens of a few botaniſts in the neighbourhood of London. We have not received an account of their propagation in America; but if the plant is kept alive in this country, it will probably be ſent thither, under ſome perſon more attentive to the public benefit, than his predeceſſors.

Dr. Ruſſel publiſhed an exact deſcription of the Scammony, and the method of collecting its juice, in the firſt volume of the Medical Obſervations.

To him, likewiſe, we are indebted for a plant, that will hereafter be one of the greateſt ornaments of our gardens ; ‡ as well as for many uſeful intimations, both in reſpect to his own profeſſion, as to commerce in general.

He choſe this city for his reſidence at his return to England, and ſoon had a conſiderable ſhare of employment. A vacancy happening in St. Thomas's Hoſpital, about the beginning of the year 1759, he was choſen phyſician, and continued in this ſtation to the time of his death, an example of diligence and humanity to the ſick, of great medical abilities as a phyſician, and as a gentleman irreproachable : The Royal Society, of which he was many years a worthy member, the Medical Society, † likewiſe, who early admitted him amongſt them, are obliged to Dr. Ruſſell, and the public through them, for many valuable communications: His extenſive practice at Aleppo, his early introduction into buſineſs here, after his arrival, the multitude of objects under

‡ The *Andrachne*, nearly approaching to the *Arbutus*, which it ſurpaſſes in elegance. An exact deſcription of this plant was given in the Tranſactions, by that great botaniſt and excellent painter, the late G. D. Ehret.

† *Medical Society.* About the year 1752, ſeveral phyſicians in London, chiefly of thoſe called Licentiates, agreed to form themſelves into a ſociety, for collecting and publiſhing all ſuch obſervations and enquiries in medicine, that ſeemed to deſerve the public notice. This ſociety has ſubſiſted ever ſince, has publiſhed ſeveral volumes, which have been well received, and will be followed by others.

der his care in the hoſpital, ſupplied a fund of medical experience, which might have yielded much benefit to ſociety, had his life been protracted.

Need I recite how much this Society is indebted to his vigilance and activity? Perhaps it is in a great meaſure owing to him that it exiſts.

Conſcious of an uniform endeavour to promote the happineſs of all to the utmoſt of his abilities in every ſtation of life; accuſtomed to be treated with a degree of reſpect, which talents like his, ſo uniformly exerted in the promotion of every thing paiſe worthy, had a right to expect, he could not eaſily brook the ſuperciliouſneſs of men, who were weak enough to ſuppoſe, that neither ſenſe nor learning, ſkill nor experience, were the produce of any other clime than that within the narrow limits of which they themſelves had been confined.

Impatient of indignities he had not deſerved, and ſatisfied that yet greater were intended to others in a like ſituation with himſelf, with a view to erect a reputation upon other mens' foundations, he communicated his ſentiments to others, who had the like apprehenſions; and common danger has happily been the means of cementing a permanent reciprocal

regard, and forming a regular Society of Men, ſcarce known to-each other but by name, but whoſe views are alike, Self-preſervation, and whoſe talents for promoting the honour of the art they profeſs, and the benefit of their fellow citizens, have acquired ſignal marks of royal and public approbation.

If then to him, with very few coadjutors, is owing the exiſtence of this Society; if the eſtabliſhment of it has contributed to ſecure no ſmall part of the faculty of phyſic in this city from injury and oppreſſion; if it ſhould be the means of eſtabliſhing the whole on a juſt and liberal foundation; if by it harmony and good intelligence have been promoted among individuals, whoſe duty and intereſt, now their inclination likewiſe, leads them to be united; our grateful acknowledgements are moſt certainly due to that man, who laboured moſt aſſiduouſly to promote theſe advantages; and to his memory let us pay a grateful tribute for his unwearied endeavours to ſerve the community, and the important ſervices he rendered it to the lateſt period of his life.

For my own part, when I recollect what I have loſt in him, the ſenſible, firm, and upright friend, the able, honeſt, and experienced phyſician, the pleaſing inſtructive companion of a ſocial hour, expreſſion fails me.

Should

Should this account ever paſs beyond the circle of Dr. Ruſſell's perſonal acquaintance, perhaps it would be to them ſome gratification to know, that he was in reſpect of ſtature rather tall than middling, well made, of a freſh ſanguine complexion, grave in his deportment, chearful in converſation, active in the buſineſs of his profeſſion, and ſagacious; an attentive and diligent obſerver, clear in his intentions, manly in his preſcriptions, and in his conduct to the ſick, benevolent and diſcreet.

Animated by his example, let us purſue the arduous track of public virtue, and having, like him, ſupported the dignity of our profeſſion, by dealing with a liberal hand to all, the bleſſings of health, to the utmoſt of our abilities, and done honour to our ſpecies, by the conſtant exerciſe of uprightneſs, candour, and benignity, we may cloſe the ſcene, in full poſſeſſion of all that deſerves the name of human felicity.

F I N I S.

A

LETTER

TO

Sir ROBERT BARKER, Knt. F. R. S.

AND

GEORGE STACPOOLE, Esq;

UPON

GENERAL INOCULATION.

Tolle mihi é cauſa nomen Catonis: remove, ac prætermitte auctoritatem, quæ in judiciis aut nihil valere, aut ad ſalutem debet valere.

CICERO in Muræn.